

Remarks

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-12 and 15-19 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 10, 12, and 15 being the independent claims. By the foregoing amendment, independent claims 1, 10, 12, and 15 are amended to further clarify the elements of these claims, and new claims 18 and 19 are added. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested. Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

On page 2, the current Office Action states that claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Pat. No. 6,522,217 B1 to Shen (hereinafter, "Shen") in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,486,754 B1 to Hidaka *et al.* (hereinafter, "Hidaka"). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Claim 1 has been amended so that the *first and second portions* of said bypass line are *electromagnetically coupled* to respective portions of the first and second resonators, and so that a *third portion of the bypass line is electromagnetically isolated from at least one of the plurality of spiral resonators that are between the first spiral resonator and the second spiral resonator.* (See, claim 1, *emphasis added*)

In Shen, the main transmission line 30 in FIG. 2 of Shen is clearly electromagnetically coupled to all of the spirals between the first and second spirals based on its consistent close proximity from all of the spirals. (See, Shen, FIG. 2). Accordingly, Shen does not teach at

least the mentioned feature of amended claim 1, and therefore does not recite each and every feature of the amended claim 1. Specifically, Shen does not teach that *a third portion of the bypass line is electromagnetically isolated from at least one of the plurality of spiral resonators that are between the first spiral resonator and the second spiral resonator*, as recited in amended claim 1. Hidaka does not cure the deficiencies of Shen. Accordingly, the requirements for prima facie obviousness have not been met, and Applicants request that the rejection of claim 1 and its respective dependent claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be removed and that these claims be passed to allowance.

Claim 10 has been amended so that the *bypass line has a length configured to produce a signal that attenuates an image channel at the output and therefore causes improved image channel rejection at the output*. (See, Claim 10, *emphasis added*). In contrast, Shen and Hidaka make no mention of image channel attenuation, nor does the Office Action even allege this. More specifically, Shen makes no indication that the transmission line 30 causes improved image channel rejection at the output, and therefore Shen does not teach all the features of the bypass line that are recited in amended claim 10. Hidaka does not cure the deficiencies of Shen. Accordingly, the requirements for prima facie obviousness have not been met, and Applicants request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) of claim 10, and its respective dependent claims, be removed and that these claims be passed to allowance.

Independent claim 12 has been amended similar to that described for claim 1. Claim 15 has been amended similar to that described for claim 10. Therefore, Applicant requests the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn and that these claims, and their respective dependent claims, be passed to allowance.

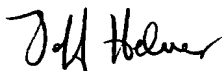
Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Jeffrey T. Helvey
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 44,757

Date: 4/29/04

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934
(202) 371-2600